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San Diego Public Library Card-Holders Can Receive \$2 Off at San Diego Latino Film Festival

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library and the 12th annual San Diego Latino Film Festival will present "Historias! Library Night" at 2005 San Diego Latino Film Festival on Tuesday, March 15. Bring in your library card and get \$2 off any general admission ticket! The film festival is being held at the Mann Theatres Hazard Center 7510 Hazard Center in Mission Valley.

There will be nine films to choose from, including family films, documentaries and the latest feature films from Argentina, Spain, Brazil, Puerto Rico, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico.

"Historias!" is a partnership between the San Diego Public Library and the Media Arts Center San Diego's San Diego Latino Film Festival. This ongoing partnership consists of year-round book discussions, film screenings and youth digital story workshops in celebration of the Latino Experience. "Historias!" is made possible by funding from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

Films being shown as part of the San Diego Latino Film Festival include:

"Onde Anda Voce" / "Where Have You Been" (4 p.m.) Dir. Sergio Rezende (Brazil, 2004) Great Brazilian actor Juca de Oliveira turns in a fine performance as Felicio Barreto, a retired comedy legend who plans on staging a comeback afer learning that his ex-wife Paloma has died. Enlisting his friend Jaja (Jose Dumont) in a search for a new partner, Felicio scours the country for the mysterious comedian Boca Pura. Old ghosts, new dreams and a man's search for inner peace interwine in this delightful Brazilian comedy about a fallen star coming to terms with life and love at the end of his twilight years. Also starring Castrinho, Drica Moraes and Aramis Trindade.

- "Literatura!" (5 p.m.) Two documentaries
- "Neruda: El hombre y su obra" Dir. Luis R. Vera (Chile, 2004) Spanish with subtitles An homage to Nobel prize-winning Chilean poet Pablo Neruda.
- "Viva Chile M...!" Dir. Uwe Blexching (USA/Chile, 2004) English and Spanish with subtitles Fascinating portrayal of poet Francisco Alegria, one of the most influential Chilean writers of the day.

"Magos y Gigantes" / "Wizards and Giants" (6 p.m.) Dir. Andres Couturier and Eduado Sprowls (Mexico, 2004)

There's trouble in the Magic Realm as wicked wizard Titan Coldface plots to steal the princess in order to strengthen his powers. Can Giant and Fury save the Magic Realm from this dastardly deed? Mexico's first animated feature on nearly two decades, this enchanting film is fun for the whole family.

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"Dias de Futbol" / "Soccer Days" (7 p.m.) Dir. David Serrano (Spain, 2003)

Ex-convict Antonio returns home and decides to form a soccer team. Enlisting his timid friend Jorge, bus driver Ramon and even a local police officer, Antonio hopes to make winners out of them all. Featuring wonderful performances by Ernesto Alterio and a fine ensemble cast, this is a funny new film from the director of the popular comedy El otro lado de la cama. Starring Alberto San Juan, Natalia Verbeke and Pere Ponce. For mature audiences.

"Kamchatka" (7:30 p.m.) Dir. Marcelo Piñeyro (Argentina/Spain, 2002)

Ricardo Darin ("Nine Queens") and Cecilia Roth ("All About My Mother") star in this moving film about a middle class family that goes into hiding in the Argentine countryside during the early days of the Galtieri dictatorship. Their tenuous existence, and that of their frightened friends and familymembers, is seen through the eyes of the family's two children. A compelling look at life during Argentina's Dirty War in which 30,000 people were "disappeared" by the militery dictatorship. Argentina's official selection for the 2002 Oscars. For mature audiences.

"El Carro" (8 p.m.) Dir. Luis Orjuela (Colombia, 2003)

A delightful comedy about an offbeat family and their first car...a cherry red 1950s Chevy convertible with a tendency to break down at the worst possible moments. Teenage daughter Paula sees the car as her ticket to freedom, while her hothead father can't wait to get rid of the lemon. The nutty ensemble cast includes Cesar Badillo, Luly Bossa, Zaira Valenzuela and Diego Cadavid.

"Caribe" (9:45 p.m.) Dir. Esteban Ramirez (Costa Rica, 2004)

Politics, passion and environmentalism collide in this steamy drama set in Costa Rica. After moving to a peaceful Costa Rican fishing community to work for a banana company, Vicente Vallejo and his wife Abigail become involved in a struggle between angry locals and a multinational oil company that wants to drill off the coast. Featuring strong performances by Jorge Perugorria, Maya Zapata, Cuca Escribano and Gabriel Retes, this film is the winner of numerous awards, including Best Film (Huelva 2004) and Best Director (Trieste 2004). For mature audiences.

"Love for Rent" (10 p.m.) Dir. Shane Edelman (USA, 2004)

The beautiful Angie Cepeda ("Pantaleon y las visitadoras") stars as Sofia, a Colombian immigrant attending law school in New York, in this funny romantic comedy. When Sofia's green card husband steals all her possessions and cleans out her bank account, she decides to serve as a surrogate mother for a middle-aged couple, played by Nora Dunn ("Saturday Night Live") and Jim Piddock ("Best in Show," "A Mighty Wind"). Newcomer Martita Roca also turns in a delightful performance as Sofia's party-girl cousin Monica. For mature audiences.

"Bala Perdida" / "Stray Bullet" (10:15 p.m.) Dir. Raúl Marchad Sánchez (Puerto Rico, 2003) The fragility of life is examined in this film about a Puerto Rican community that struggles to live normal lives despite the senselessness of ongoing street violence and drug-related shootings. Families, narcotics officers, dealers, prisoners and children are bound together in a tragic web that makes them all victims of a stray bullet. Powerfully written and well-acted, this film stars Marisol Calero, Sharon Riley, Idalia Perez Garay and Rey Pascual. For mature audiences.

Ticket prices are \$8.50 for general admission and \$6.50 for students, seniors, film festival members and San Diego Public Library card-holders. Purchase tickets at the Mann Theatres box office prior to screenings. The box office opens on the day of screenings at noon. Advance tickets can also be purchased online. For more information, call 619-230-1938 or visit the San Diego Latino Film Festival's Web site at http://www.sdlatinofilm.com/.